

contributions by a tribe with a different matter pending at Interior. He denied it had any effect on the outcome of that matter. *See infra* at 408. No other witness could recall any mention of campaign contributions in connection with any Interior matter pending during any witness's employment at the Department.

All Interior employees except Collier denied being contacted by Fowler or other DNC officials about Hudson. Collier said he was aware Fowler had said that he called someone at Interior about the Hudson matter but could not remember whom. Collier said he did not recall speaking to Fowler, but allowed that if Fowler called anyone at DOI, it was probably him, since he was Chief of Staff.³⁹⁷ In April 1995, Collier knew that Fowler was Chairman of the DNC, but Fowler testified that as of that point in time he did not know Collier and did not know what position he held.

Duffy told investigators that when he met with Eckstein on July 14, 1995, he did not know who Fowler was. Duffy testified that he was unaware of any other Department employee being contacted by DNC officials on any matter while he was at Interior. He further stated he had not heard that Collier sought DNC help on Shakopee tribal matter, although he knew the tribe made a DNC contribution.

³⁹⁷The only other reported contact between Fowler and DOI officials came after the Hudson decision. Babbitt's second Chief of Staff, Anne Shields, reported she had been contacted by Fowler one time. She thought it occurred while she was Chief of Staff (beginning in July 1995), and may have related to a gaming compact issue involving the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head, Massachusetts, or the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe's Detroit casino proposal. She said she spoke to him, but did nothing and told no one involved in the issue about it. Fowler's remarks were along the lines of "[t]hese are good people. You should hear them out." OIC Interview of Anne Shields, Jan. 1, 1999, at 13. Shields could not recall on whose behalf he was calling, and she considered the entire call irrelevant.